

A monthly newsletter for the citizens of the City of Rockville

Scott Ullery Named New City Manager

Deputy County Manager in California to Start in Late November

Scott Ullery, the deputy county manager of Santa Barbara County, Calif., has accepted the offer of Rockville’s Mayor and Council to become the next city manager of Maryland’s fifth-largest city.

Ullery interviewed with all five members of the Mayor and Council in late September.

He returned to Rockville in early October to learn more about the City. During that visit, he met with residents, members of the City’s business community and with members of the City staff. Shortly afterward, a contract agreement was reached.

The Mayor and Council are expected to officially approve Ullery’s contract at the Oct. 25 general session. He likely will start as chief administrator of the city government in late November.

Catherine Tuck Parrish has served as Rockville’s acting city manager since Jan. 12. Tuck Parrish, the city’s assistant city manager, was appointed by the Mayor and Council as interim city manager following the resignation of W. Mark Pentz. After 5 1/2



Rockville’s new City Manager Scott Ullery.

years in Rockville, Pentz resigned to become city manager of Chandler, Ariz. Tuck Parrish chose not to be a candidate for the city manager position.

Ullery, who has 25 years of government experience, has served as deputy county manager in Santa Barbara since 1997. Santa Barbara County has an estimated population of 403,134 and the county has approximately 4,600 employees. Rockville’s population according the 2000 U.S. Census is 47,388 and the City has about 500 fulltime employees.

“We are confident that we have found the right candidate to be the chief administrator of our city government,” said Mayor Larry Giammo. “We wanted a city manager with experience, and we wanted someone who would bring strong leadership, great organization, new ideas and lots of enthusiasm. This is an important time for Rockville, with many new projects on the horizon that will affect the City’s long-term future. We need someone like Scott to help make sure the things we are planning are accomplished.”

In Santa Barbara County, Ullery had direct supervision over the departments of Planning and Development, Public Works, Parks, General Services, Social Services, Public Health, Mental Health and Agriculture. He also served as the interim director of Human Resources.

Prior to his work in Santa Barbara, Ullery spent 18 years with the City of Tucson. He was the assistant city manager of Tucson from 1994 to 1997 and was the assistant to the city manager from 1992 to

1994. He held several responsible positions prior to that in the Department of Budget and Research.

Ullery received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Arizona and is a graduate of the University of Arizona’s Eller School of Management’s Executive Development Program. [RR](#)

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ROLLS ROYCE SWEEP... Charles B. Gillet of Baltimore drove away in his 1926 Rolls Royce Phantom I (above) with the People’s Choice Award at the 2004 Rockville Antique and Classic Car Show last month. The Mayor and Council Award went to Dick Clow of Annapolis for his cream-colored 1927 Rolls Royce Springfield Pl. This year’s show celebrated the 100th anniversary of Rolls Royce and the 40th anniversary of Ford Mustang.

Mayor Giammo Joins Gov. Ehrlich On Trip to China and Singapore

Maryland Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. and Rockville Mayor Larry Giammo were part of a group that traveled to China and Singapore in October in an effort to foster business opportunities between Maryland and Chinese firms.

Governor Ehrlich’s mission to Asia, which left on Oct. 16, included Mayor Giammo, three directors of the Asian Pacific American Chamber of Commerce (George Dang, Serina Moy and Jon Liu) and members of the Maryland De-

partment of Business and Economic Development. Mayor Giammo’s trip extended through Saturday, Oct. 23.

Preceding the trip, on Oct. 11, Mayor Giammo and Councilmembers John Hall, Jr., and Anne Robbins met with about 25 Asian-American business leaders and members of the Asian Pacific American Chamber of Commerce at a working reception at the offices of Rockville Economic Development, Inc., in Rockville Town Center. The

Mayor was seeking input from these experienced leaders to maximize the impact of the trip.

“I was honored to have the opportunity to represent Rockville, Montgomery County and the State of Maryland on the trade mission,” said Mayor Giammo. “The City of Rockville has a strong relationship with the state government, which is, for example, a major investor in the redevelopment of Rockville’s Town Center. By playing a

role in the trade mission, I have an opportunity to reciprocate by helping the state in its effort to strengthen economic ties with Asia.

In addition to supporting current bio technical and hi-tech businesses in Rockville, the trade mission sought to help local businesses by identifying potential overseas markets and venture capital investors. The trip also demonstrated the benefits of doing business in the Rockville area to Asian businesses considering establishing roots in the U.S.

Mayor Giammo’s extended trip included a meeting with government leaders and entre-

preneurs in Suzhou, which is about 50 miles from Shanghai. That visit included a look at American companies in an industrial park and meetings with representatives of several Chinese companies that have the interest and potential to go aboard.

Mayor Giammo intends to explore the possibility of a continuing relationship between the cities of Suzhou and Rockville. He hopes that relationship would eventually include exchanges of students, teachers, artists, business and government leaders, as well as the possibility of a more comprehensive, longer-term Sister City-type of relationship. [RR](#)

November’s Best of Rockville

Nov. 5

Rockville Sister City Corporation “Red Wines of the Mediterranean” tasting. Senior Center. 7:30 p.m. Tickets required. 240-314-5029

Nov. 11

Veterans Day Ceremony
Traditional wreath laying ceremony with local service organizations. 11 a.m. Veteran’s Park. 240-314-5022




Nov. 21

Rockville Concert Band
3 p.m. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. Free; donations accepted. Pre-concert by Clarinets Three at 2 p.m. 240-314-8681

MAYOR & COUNCIL
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City Projects UPDATE

Recreation & Parks GENERAL PROJECTS

Asphalt/Concrete • Mill and overlay parking lot at Lincoln Park Community Center • Work to be completed by mid-Nov. • Seal Elwood Smith Community Center parking lot • work to be completed this fall.

Athletic Courts • Resurface basketball and tennis courts and replace fences at Isreal Park • To be completed by end of Oct. • Replace tennis court lights at Woodley Gardens • Work to be completed in Dec.

City Hall Improvements • Reorganization and renovation of second and third floor interior spaces of City Hall as well as the Bouic House (adjacent to City Hall) for improved use efficiencies • Design in final stage for City Hall • Construction on the Bouic House expected to be completed by the end of Oct. • Project is expected to take approximately 18 months.

Civic Center Long Range Plan • Feasibility study underway to identify adequate and accessible parking, vehicular and pedestrian access and storm water management on the Civic Center grounds • Study and design recommendations to be completed during winter 2004-05.

Dog Park • Design has been incorporated into the King Farm 28-acre park • Final design to be completed this winter • Rockville Dog Owners Group (RDOG) continues to participate in the planning process.

Energy Performance Contract • Energy savings project for City facilities through the Maryland Energy Administration’s energy performance contract • Equipment replacement is 90 percent complete. Planning and installation of the energy management system is 75 percent complete • Completion of all installations is expected by the end of Nov.

Gude Drive Facility Improvements • Modernization and expansion of the City’s Public Works and Parks maintenance complex in four phases • Phase I includes replacement of salt dome, storm water management upgrades, access improvements and improved debris storage • Construction documents out to bid this winter.

I-270/Route 28 Bike/Pedestrian Bridge • Separate bridge for pedestrians and bicyclists parallel to Route 28 on south side across I-270 to connect Hurley Avenue and Nelson Street bikeways • TEA-21 grant for \$3,124,421 received from State Highway Administration • Bids received exceeded budget • Design being revised and will be re-bid in the winter.

King Farm Farmstead • Proposals to convert the hay-drying pole shed into a picnic shelter are being evaluated • All work will be in compliance with task force recommendations and with Historic District Commission approvals.

King Farm 28-Acre Park • Details of the park plan have been completed, incorporating comments from the public and the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board • Final design to be completed this winter.

Millennium Trail • Norbeck Road multi-use path from East Gude Drive to Veirs Mill Road • Construction began in summer and is expected to be completed in Dec. • Veirs Mill Road to Edmonston Drive currently awaiting Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) approval • Majority of cost for both projects covered by TEA-21 grants awarded by Maryland SHA.

Playground Equipment Improvements • Replacement equipment at Maryvale and Elwood Smith parks have been designed with input from neighborhood children • Installation is expected to begin in Nov.

Rockville Senior Center • Expansion of dining room and kitchen renovations and improvements have been completed • Funding support from Maryland Department of Aging and Rockville Seniors, Inc.

Urban Forest Renewal • Removal of aging and hazardous trees in Twinbrook, Fallsmead, Potomac Woods and other neighborhoods is ongoing • Replacement plantings take place in the spring and fall.

Public Works

TRANSPORTATION
Baltimore Road Traffic Calming • Raised intersection at Woodburn Road • Construction is complete.

Bike/Pedestrian Improvements • Maryland Route 28 and Great Falls Road intersection improvements are complete • Mannakee Street sidewalk to be constructed before winter • Nelson Street crosswalk for access to park to be constructed spring 2005.

Fallsgrove-Funded Transportation Improvements • Majority of the projects are complete • Those yet to be finished include Gude Drive and Gaither Road (construction started mid-Oct.), I-270, Maryland Route 28 and Nelson Street (construction in fall) • I-270 and Shady Grove Road beginning in August 2005.

Right Turn Lane West Bound at Research Boulevard • Construction of second right turn lane to Research Boulevard construction underway.

Watts Branch Parkway Traffic Calming • Design underway • Construction improvement at Aintree Drive expected to begin this spring.

STREAM AND STORM-WATER IMPROVEMENTS
Alsace Lane Stream Restoration • Design underway on 500 feet of stream in the Rock Creek drainage area • Construction planned for summer 2006.

Carnation/I-270 SWM Retrofit • Modify existing stormwater management facilities to implement stream erosion control and improve

600 feet of stream in Watts Branch drainage area • Design underway • Construction planned for summer 2005.

College Gardens Low Impact Design (LID) SWM Study • Surveys distributed to the residents in Oct. • Consultants are evaluating various LID techniques on public and private property to improve Watts Branch water quality and reduce runoff • Study kick-off meeting with the community was held in Oct.

College Gardens Low Impact Design (LID) SWM Grant Implementation • Workshops on rain gardens and rain barrels were held in Oct. • College Gardens Civic Association and the College Gardens Garden Club are soliciting the neighborhood to find volunteers to implement LID techniques on private property.

North Horners Lane Stream Improvement • 200 feet of stream restoration is being designed • Construction is planned for summer 2005.

RedGate Golf Course Northeast Park Stormwater Management Retrofits • Modify existing SWM facilities and improve 600 feet of stream in Rock Creek drainage area • Two ponds are on the golf course and the other is next to Gude Drive • Both projects were advertised for construction bidding in Sept. The Northeast Park construction will start in Nov. with completion projected for spring 2005 • The RedGate Golf Course bid was rejected due to excessive cost. Construction schedule was modified to allow for summer work. Construction will begin in summer 2005 and be completed in early 2006.

Woottons Mill Stream Improvement • 4,400 feet of stream restoration is being designed • Stream restoration is from Watts Branch Parkway to Wootton Parkway in Woottons Mill Park • Pedestrian access will continue • Construction will start in Jan. 2005 and be completed in Jan. 2006.

UTILITIES
Adclare Water Main Replacement • Approximately 620 feet of six-inch water main in Adclare Road will be replaced with eight-inch water main • Design has started and construction is expected to begin in early 2005.

North Horners Lane Utilities Improvement • Water main upgrade planned between Southlawn Lane and Westmore Avenue • Construction is ongoing.

Sewer Rehabilitation • Sewer evaluation survey, including flow monitoring and video inspection of underground piping for the southeastern area of Twinbrook, has been completed and the results are being evaluated • Prioritization of repairs will be based on cost effectiveness • Schedule for construction has not been set.

WATER IMPROVEMENTS
Glen Mill Pump Station • Project will provide the additional pumping capacity needed to provide sufficient water supply to the entire Rockville water system • Construction started in Sept. 2004 and will be completed in Sept. 2005.

Water Treatment Plant • Major upgrade in the treatment plant to allow a maximum daily production of 14 million gallons is essentially complete • Construction of covers over the filter wells is complete • An emergency generator will be added improvements to sludge handling facilities are being studied.

Clean and Line Water Mains • Project will improve the capacity and flow in the water distribution • Approximately 6,500 feet of water main will be improved • The water main improvement starts at the intersection of Aster Blvd. at Nelson St. and runs along Nelson St. to Mannakee St.; continues from Wilson Ave. to Owens St., and stops at Carr Ave. • Construction planned for spring 2005.



Focus On PROTECTING WATERWAYS

Rockville has many programs that affect the lives of residents. On a regular basis, “Focus On” will take an introspective look at these programs and detail the impact they have for City residents.

With about 48,000 people and 5,000 storm drains in the City, there is a good chance that at any moment something harmful to the environment could end up in a drain and make its way not only into Rockville’s local creeks and streams, but eventually to Rock Creek and the Chesapeake Bay.



Commercial property codes inspector Steve Davis demonstrates how pollution in a stream is cleaned up.

For more than a year, members of nearly every City department have been working together to create an effective response to pollution discharge into the City’s waterways. A new law required the City to take on this role from Montgomery County.

“Public education is a big part of it,” said Steve Davis, a commercial property codes inspector. “Many people do not know that the storm drains are not sewers.”

Residents and businesses play a vital part in keeping the City’s creeks and streams clean

by being sure not to let chemicals enter the drain.

Car maintenance can lead some vehicle owners to accidentally or intentionally pollute water either when they are changing fluids or by not caring for vehicles. Residents who pour oil, antifreeze or other vehicle fluids in the storm drains are contributing to the problem. So are others who have a leaky fuel tank or spill contaminates on the ground and do not clean them up. Davis suggests using kitty litter or another absorbent to soak up accidental spills.

Grease from restaurants can

be a problem. Beyond employees dumping containers of grease into storm drains, leaky drums used to hold the grease could overflow or leak and cause problems.

Business owners also should be vigilant for how vehicles are cleaned.

“The biggest goal is to limit any accidental or purposely discharged materials into the stream, no matter how large or small it is,” said Davis.

For more information about protecting Rockville’s waterways or to report a problem, call 240-314-8330. [RR](#)

Prepare For The Unexpected: *Emergency Readiness Tips from Montgomery Co.*

Emergencies can occur anywhere and at anytime. However, despite a series of events over the past two years around the nation, and the Washington area, many local residents have not taken steps that will help them, and their families, through several days of emergency situations.

An informal and non-scientific eight-question survey of residents conducted through Rockville's Meter Reader (an enclosure with the quarterly mailings of City utility invoices) and the Rockville City Web site from April through August showed that only 13 percent of respondents considered themselves "Very prepared" in case an emergency arose and 60 percent said they were "Somewhat prepared." A total of 25 percent responded that they were "Not very" or "Not at all" prepared.

To help take steps that would enable residents to be better prepared, the City and the Montgomery County Office of Emergency Management, Fire and Rescue Service are urging residents to plan ahead and be ready for any type of emergency—whether it is a hurricane, winter storm or an act of terrorism.

Detailed checklists and other preparedness tips are available online at the County's Web site www.montgomerycountymd.gov under the "Emergency Preparedness" link. The Web site also provides information about specific



A sample emergency kit

kinds of emergencies, public health issues, useful telephone numbers and where to get post-disaster help.

The following are selected tips to help prepare for emergency situations in case a family is forced to leave home or possibly be in their home without power and other resources:

- Plan how your family will stay in contact if separated by a disaster and how pets will be cared for. Pick two meeting places. One should be a location that is a safe distance from your home in case of fire. The other should be a place outside of your neighborhood in case you can not return home (such as a library or a location at a shopping mall). Also choose an out-of-the-area friend or family member as a "check-in-contact" for everyone to call.
- Make an itemized list of all personal property and put copies in places other than your home. Take pictures or videotape items that are both inside and

outside. This can be a significant help if insurance claims must be made.

- Keep a copy of your insurance policy and list of personal property in a safe, watertight place.
- Assemble a family disaster kit and keep it in a location where it is easy to reach.

The kit should include:

- ✓ Battery-powered flashlight, radio and plenty of extra batteries
- ✓ A first-aid kit and any prescription drugs or extra eyeglasses needed by family members
- ✓ Immunization and other pertinent medical records and medical cards
- ✓ A list of the style and serial numbers of medical devices such as pacemakers
- ✓ A five-day supply of water (one gallon per person per day). Store water in clean, unbreakable containers
- ✓ A five-day supply of non-perishable food and a non-electric can opener, plus any special foods required (baby or diabetic special diets, for example)
- ✓ Blankets or sleeping bags

Residents who need information or help during a disaster can call the County Crisis Center, which is staffed around the clock. The telephone number is 240-777-4000 (TTY 240-777-4815). For more information about emergency preparedness, call the County's Office of Emergency Management at 240-777-2300. **RR**

Concerns Arise on Twinbrook Commons

The developers of Twinbrook Commons, a planned mixed-use development of residences, retail and office space, presented details of their proposal at a joint worksession of the Mayor and Council and the City's Planning Commission in October. Members of both bodies raised a number of concerns about the plan.

The presentation was part of a process that would have the entire project developed under a single plan in the City of Rockville. Currently, 17 acres of the overall 26 acres of the project being developed by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA, better known as Metro) and the JBG Corporation (acting as Twinbrook Commons, LLC) are in Montgomery County. That land is east of the Twinbrook Metro Station. The remaining land is west (on the Rockville Pike side) of the Metro tracks.

JBG already has approval from Montgomery County if the development is to be split between the jurisdictions. However,

JBG asked the City to consider annexing the 17 acres into the City so the entire project would be in Rockville. In September, the Mayor and Council took steps to put the annexation into motion.

The City would benefit from annexation because it will have more control over the entire development and eventually, the entire development will become part of Rockville's tax base.

The development calls for 1,700 multifamily residences, 220,000 square feet of retail space, 325,000 square feet of office space and 1,151 Metro parking spaces (approximately the same number of spaces currently provided by Metro surface lots). The entire project will be privately funded.

Maximum height limits of residential and commercial buildings in the proposal would be 170 feet (about 16 stories) if the building is 300 feet or more from a single-family detached home. If the building is less than 300 feet away from a single-family de-

tached home, residential buildings could reach 140 feet high and commercial buildings could be as tall as 110 feet. The lowest buildings would be four stories.

"We are not trying to create a project, we are trying to create a neighborhood," Mike Nicholas of Torti-Gallas, the architect for JBG, told the Mayor and Council.

Councilmember Susan Hoffmann said she was impressed by the overall plan.

"I like the Twinbrook Commons concept," she said. "It helps create its own downtown."

However, concerns were expressed about building heights and potential impacts on traffic congestion and schools.

"I think there is an opportunity to build a community," said Giammo. "The caveat being: If done right... I am hopeful we can find a way for the development to be a part of [Rockville]."

The Preliminary Development Plan for the project provides 15 percent (about 256) of the residences as Moderately Priced Dwelling Units (MPDUs). **RR**



WALK TO SCHOOL... Nearly three quarters of the students at Meadow Hall Elementary experienced the benefits of walking to school at the first Walk To School Day celebration in Rockville on Oct. 7. Police officers, including Police Chief Terry Treschuk (above, left), help make sure children cross Twinbrook Parkway safely. Also joining the walk was Chief of Transportation Larry Marcus and staff of the City's Recreation and Parks Department. Students and parents also were greeted by Councilmember Bob Dorsey, who offered encouragement and prizes to the students.

Dreamers And Doers: Rockville Chamber Honors Coakely, EU Services at Gala On Oct. 30

Rory S. Coakely, owner of Rory S. Coakely Realty, and EU Services, Inc., will be honored on Saturday, Oct. 30, as Citizen of the Year and Business of the Year, respectively, at the annual Rockville Chamber of Commerce President's Gala. The theme of the 2004 gala is "Dreams Do Come True."

Coakely and EU Services have each made commitments to help the Rockville community and its citizens, while also operating as profitable businesses. Particular emphasis is placed on achievements over the past year. However, long-term contributions also are given significant consideration.

The awards will be presented at the gala at Lakewood Country Club. The reception begins at 5:30 p.m. with dinner

and dancing.

"Both of our honorees help make many people's dreams come true," said Joy Young, president of the Rockville Chamber of Commerce.

"Through their efforts, hundreds of lives have been positively impacted and people have been supported. In many cases, without them, the help and guidance might not have been available."

The gala traditionally is attended by area business, government and community leaders. A portion of the proceeds benefit two local charities: The Rockville Scholarship Foundation and Community Ministries of Rockville.

For more information on the event, call 301-424-9300 or visit www.RockvilleChamber.org. **RR**



ROCKVILLE'S STAMP OF APPROVAL... The picture on this new stamp was taken by King Farm resident Mike Mogil from his former home in Rockville's College Gardens neighborhood. Mogil worked for 15 years to have a selection of cloud stamps published by the U.S. Postal Service last month. He also held a program for second graders at College Gardens Elementary School to discuss the many exciting aspects of clouds.

Capturing Rockville’s Spirit, One Stroke at a Time

*Glenview Exhibit Features Paintings of Historic
Rockville Houses, Portraits by Maryland Society*

Connie Ward Woolard is inspired by Rockville’s historic homes. She has done her part to preserve these treasures by painting them—in acrylics.

Woolard’s exhibit, called *Treasures of Rockville: Historic Houses*, will be on display along with the varied media works by 57 artists of the Maryland Society of Portrait Painters from Nov. 7-30 in a free show at Rockville’s Glenview Mansion Art Gallery.

Woolard has lived in her Wheaton home since 1957, but she has been active for a long time in the Rockville community, including serving as president of the Rockville Art League. She has won numerous awards including a Wagman Award from Peerless Rockville in May 2003. Woolard also received a commission by the Rockville Mayor and Council in 1989 to create three paintings that currently hang in the Mayor and Council Chambers at City Hall.

Glenview Mansion is one of her most recent detailed and colorful paintings that will be on display at the show.

“I’ve been there for so many events and it has always been breathtaking,” she said. “But this year, the gardens are so gorgeous. I couldn’t resist it. I just had to paint it.”



Connie Woolard creates detailed drawings of houses in Rockville, like this historic home at 11 Laird Street.

Depending on the amount of detail, Woolard said creating her works can take from three days to a week. Working from pictures of the home and her pencil sketches, Woolard captures nearly every precise detail. Many of her paintings are by commission and depending on the size and detail are priced at \$450 and up.

“I especially love the character and history associated with fine old houses, imagining the wonderful stories that could be told if only they could speak,” said Woolard. “I find it very rewarding to be able to portray a home, old or new, that someone has lovingly lived in and cared for, hoping to capture some of

their memories on paper.”

The public is invited to meet Woolard and many artists from the Maryland Society of Portrait Painters at an opening reception on Sunday, Nov. 7, from 1-4 p.m. As part of the opening, the U.S. Navy Band Chamber Ensemble will perform.

On Thursday, Nov. 18, at 7:30 p.m., there will be an artist talk. A guided tour of the exhibit will be held on Friday, Nov. 19, at 10 a.m.

Glenview Mansion is located in Rockville Civic Center Park at 603 Edmonston Drive. For more information on the November gallery show, call 240-314-8682 or visit www.rockvillemd.gov. **RR**

Holidays: A Time for Giving

The 2004 Rockville Holiday Drive is underway and this year, more than ever, donations are needed to assist Rockville residents in need during the November and December holiday seasons.

“Last year we served more households than ever before and we’re expecting a similar number of people that need help again this year,” said Mary Lou Jacobs, program manager for Rockville’s Department of Neighborhood and Community

Services. “We’re so grateful for the efforts of Mount Calvary Baptist Church, North Farm Community Basket Brigade, Manna Food Center and other organizations that we partner with to make the drive a success. And we look forward to another strong holiday drive this year.”

Monetary donations also are needed. Checks should be made payable to the Rockville Holiday Drive Fund and mailed to: Department of Neighborhood and Community Services, Attn: Rockville Holiday Drive, 20 Courthouse Square, Suite No. 205, Rockville Md., 20850.

Another way residents can make the 2004 Rockville Holiday Drive a success is to volunteer their time to pack or deliver Thanksgiving baskets. Call 240-314-8307 for more information. **RR**

“Last year we served more households than ever before and we’re expecting a similar number of people that need help again this year.”

— Mary Lou Jacobs,
Program Manager

“Last year we served more households than ever before and we’re expecting a similar number of people that need help again this year.”

Last year the City distributed 1,498 holiday baskets in November and December. This year, the goal is to distribute 1,500 to meet the growing need of Rockville residents.

Nonperishable food donations are being accepted at the Manna Food Center, 614 Lofstrand Lane (off Southlawn Lane) Monday-Friday, 8:30-11 a.m. (designate that the food is for the “Rockville Holiday

F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Conference Short Story Contest Winners Honored

The Ninth Annual F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary conference, was an overwhelming success on Oct. 23 at Montgomery College. The conference celebrated the 108th birthday of the great American author and the art of writing.

Writers had the unique opportunity to have their work critiqued by accomplished writers in the specialty field of their choice including fiction, poetry, memoirs, playwriting or children’s literature.

In addition to acclaimed short story writer Grace Paley receiving

the F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Award, the following local short story contest writers were honored:

2004 Adult Contest
Anca Nemoianu, Bethesda
Winner. “Justice by Night”

John Copenhaver, Washington, D.C.
Second. “Van My Man”

Holly Nicole Hoxter, Parkville, Md.
Third. “Rats”

Neil Isaacs, Colesville, Md.
Fourth. “Collared”

2004 H.S. Contest
Katherine Zhang, Gaithersburg
Montgomery Blair H.S.
Winner. “Fourth Symphony”

Brynn Tucker, Germantown
Seneca Valley H.S.
Second. “A Morning Wilt”

Koyel Bhattacharyya, Rockville
Montgomery Blair H.S.
Third. “Close Quarters”

Olga Gorelenkova, Gaithersburg
Northwest H.S.
Fourth. “Out of Service” **RR**

Rockville 10K/5K Run Results

Paris Caballero, 22, of Gaithersburg ran away from the men’s 10-kilometer field and Patricia Zerfas, 42, of Kensington easily won the women’s race in the 29th annual edition of the Rockville 10K/5K Run on Sun-

day, Oct. 17.

Joe Abernathy, 45, of College Park won the men’s 5K race and Patty Fulton, 38, of Silver Spring won the women’s 5K division over the newly designed course in the King Farm neighborhood

in what is known as the “Oldest Continuing Road Race in Montgomery County.”

The race, hosted by Rockville’s Mayor and Council, attracted 777 total runners on a challenging, new course. **RR**



WINGED MIGRATION... Participants in the Croydon Creek Nature Center’s Monarch program learned how butterflies travel from Maryland to Mexico last month. Students searched for butterflies in the gardens surrounding Glenview Mansion. Naturalists at the Nature Center conduct numerous activities like this for children each month. Read the Rockville Reports calendar or the City’s Recreation Guide for more information.

INSIDE MAYOR & COUNCIL

A Glimpse into the City Government at Work



PLANTING PEACE... Teacher Deborah Wilcheck (front left), students from her Richard Montgomery High School Peace Studies Class, members of Rockville's Department of Recreation and Parks and Mayor Larry Giammo (second row, second from right) dedicate the new Peace Garden at Elwood Smith Park on Oct. 14. The students raised money and created a landscape plan for a section of the park, which includes a bench donated by the City with a plaque. "If even one person comes here and reads the quote from the Dali Lama and thinks about what peace is all about," student Chris Ray said at the dedication, "then this is a great legacy."

Mayor & Council Look Toward FY 06 Budget

It seems like the Mayor and Council just adopted the FY 2005 Rockville operating and Capital Improvements Programs budgets. In fact, those budgets were adopted in June for the budget year beginning on July 1.

However, on Oct. 4, the FY 06 budget process informally began at a worksession when the Mayor and Council discussed a number of priorities with members of the City's Department of Finance.

One of the main factors of discussion was a suggested decrease in the tax rate for homeowners. The current rate of 32.2 cents per \$100 of assessed home value has remained unchanged for several years, but sharply increased state assessments have led to significant state, county and city taxes for homeowners.

In today's Washington area market, even with a decrease in the tax rate, an individual's tax bill likely will increase. However, a decreased tax rate could lessen those increases.

Councilmember John Hall, Jr., said that decreasing the tax rate would send a message to residents that the Mayor and Council are aware of the pressures faced by homeowners.

"We have to say, 'We get it,'" said Hall.

During the worksession, many aspects of a potential cut were discussed, including how big a cut should be approached. The range among Councilmembers was a wide one and they requested more specific numbers be brought to them at a future worksession.

"I fully support moving in that direction [of a tax cut]—if we can afford it," said Mayor Larry Giammo.

Councilmember Anne Robbins said she appreciated that budget discussions were starting several months earlier than usual to allow for careful consideration of what could be difficult decisions.

"I am glad we are not taking a meat axe approach," she said. "We are doing it early and with a thoughtful approach."

Councilmember Bob Dorsey wanted to remind his colleagues, and residents, that potential cuts could have an impact that might be regretted.

"We need to remember we may be talking about a little less snowplowing," he said. "We really need to understand what Rockville amenities we are willing to give up."

The official budget process will begin in April 2005. Adoption of the budget is scheduled for June 2005. **RR**

Rockville Adopts Landmark Transportation Review Policy

New Standards Will Help Assess Whether Proposals Are Workable

Rockville's Mayor and Council have adopted a new policy that is one of the nation's most stringent when it comes to forcing developers seeking to build new projects to analyze the impacts of pedestrian safety, accessibility to public transportation and availability of bicycle routes.

The information presented under the new Comprehensive Transportation Review (CTR) Methodology could have developers make improvements up to a half-mile away from their projects—or could be used as justification to modify or reject the proposals.

The policy, adopted on Oct. 4 and now in effect, for the first time requires applicants who wish to develop projects in the City to analyze the impacts of their plans on all forms of transportation. A previous policy required development applicants to only analyze how increased automobile traffic generated by the development impacted the flow of vehicles on streets and at intersections. The CTR requires this same review, but also requires review of how the additional automobile trips from the site also would affect sidewalks, bicycle routes and access to bus stops and Metro stations.

The Mayor and Council have been working toward adoption of an Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance that would set required standards to be met to ensure adequate capacity exists in facilities such as schools and roads before permission would be granted for future developments. The CTR provides guidelines that could be cited in an Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance and could guide decision-making by the Mayor and Council

and the City's Planning Commission.

"Probably the foremost difficulty with new developments across the nation is that the people in nearby existing communities often are affected negatively," said Larry Marcus, Rockville's chief of Traffic and Transportation. "This CTR seeks to make sure that no longer is the case in Rockville in regard to transportation issues."

The new policy will make Rockville the first jurisdiction in the region to require development applicants to provide information about access routes (such as sidewalks and bicycle facilities) outside of the proposed development site. While many jurisdictions require that development applicants create sidewalk and bicycle routes at their site, the CTR requires developers to review these routes for up to a half-mile radius surrounding the site to determine whether the new development will provide access to these routes. This information would then be used by the City to analyze whether new routes were needed—both as part of the proposed development and for the immediate area.

Depending on the size and impact of a proposal, a developer may be required to mitigate the negative effects of additional automobile traffic generated from the development. This may include installation of bicycle-parking facilities, repair of sidewalks leading to the development site, building new traffic lanes, and /or providing incentives to take public transit.

For more information on Rockville's new CTR methodology and to review the new policy document, go through the City of Rockville Web site at www.rockvillemd.gov. **RR**



ON THE MOVE... (left to right) State Senator Jennie Forehand, Councilmember Robert E. Dorsey, Rockville Mayor Larry Giammo, Councilmember John F. Hall, Jr., Falls Grove Civic Association Board Member Jeff Webber, Falls Grove Traffic and Safety Committee and City Traffic and Transportation Commission Member Amy Rosselle and Falls Grove Civic Association President Arthur Goldberg celebrate the opening of the new Rockville Regional Transportation Center on Sept. 28.



Mayor
Larry Giammo



Councilmember
Robert E. (Bob) Dorsey



Councilmember
John F. Hall, Jr.



Councilmember
Susan R. Hoffmann



Councilmember
Anne M. Robbins

Mayor & Council Drop In

The Mayor and one Councilmember are available to meet with residents on a drop-in basis in the Mayor and Council office at City Hall from 5:30-6:30 p.m. on Mondays (unless otherwise noted) when there is a General Session or Public Hearing. Call the City Clerk's Office (240-314-8280) as drop-in times are subject to change.

In addition to Mayor Larry Giammo, Councilmembers scheduled for November and December are:

- **November 15:** Susan Hoffmann
- **December 20:** Anne Robbins

Mayor & Council Meetings

All General Sessions, Worksessions and Public Hearings are televised on The Rockville Channel, and are available on streaming video at: www.rockvillemd.gov. All meetings are subject to change.

- **Nov. 1 (Mon.)** Worksession (Mayor and Council Goals/Action Items,) 5:30 p.m., General Session/Public Hearing (Lincoln Terrace, Akridge Development)
- **Nov. 15 (Mon.)** Worksession (FY05 Budget, Moderately Priced Dwelling Units, Town Center,) 7 p.m.

Boards & Commissions Vacancies

The City is seeking applicants for appointment to the following:

- Cultural Arts Commission (one)
- Human Rights Commission (three)

For more information, contact the Office of the City Clerk at 240-314-8280.

'Tis the Season for Holiday Festivities in Rockville

The holiday season is fast approaching. This is a time when friends and families often are looking to take part in unique activities to help make memories that will last a lifetime.

The City of Rockville annually offers a wide variety of distinctive events for people of all tastes and ages. Consider joining in one, some or all of the following holiday excursions:

■ SATURDAY, NOV. 13

Tour Winterthur, An American Country Estate

Visit this spectacular American country estate nestled in the heart of Delaware's Brandywine Valley. Discover the museum's magnificent collection of American antiques. Take a guided tour of the yuletide decorations as well as a tram tour of the gardens.

8 a.m.-7 p.m. Departs from/Returns to City Hall. \$76 Resident/\$95 Non Resident.

■ SUNDAY, DEC. 12

Two Candlelight Tours

Tour two fantastic historical locations by candlelight.

Havre de Grace hosts a Carver Celebration at the Decoy Museum and the Maritime Museum is also open during the Candlelight Tour of period homes, churches and several bed and breakfasts.

Old Town Alexandria is home to the second tour, with five of its historic properties open and decorated for the holidays.

Havre de Grace: 12 noon-9 p.m. Departs from/Returns to



It's not the North Pole, but Rockville residents do head to northern Maryland to feed reindeer each winter.

Croydon Creek Nature Center. \$40 Resident/\$45 Non Resident

Alexandria: 2 p.m.-10 p.m. Departs from/Returns to City Hall. \$48 Resident/\$60 Non Resident

■ SATURDAY, DEC. 18

Dickens' A Christmas Carol at Ford's Theatre

Join fellow neighbors for a heart-warming, new production of Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* at Ford's Theatre in downtown Washington. This year's production turns the spotlight more prominently on those apparitions that inhabit and trouble the world of the miserly Ebenezer Scrooge.

1-8 p.m.. Departs from/Returns to City Hall. \$61 Resident/\$77 Non Resident

■ SATURDAY, DEC. 11

Christmas Spectacular at Radio City Music Hall

Prepare to kick-up those heels for a show that will amaze and delight the whole family. Take a City-sponsored trip to New York City to see the Christmas Spectacular complete with the Rockettes and a

3-D Santa. This trip includes transportation from Rockville to New York City.

5 a.m.-11 p.m. Departs from/Returns to City Hall. \$155 Resident/\$175 Non Resident

■ MONDAY, DEC. 27

Reindeer Games

Meet Minnie, Molly and Spruce, a few of the reindeer who live just north of Baltimore.

9 a.m.-4 p.m. Departs from/Returns to Croydon Creek Nature Center. \$30 Resident/\$35 Non Resident

"The line-up we have this year offers individuals and groups of families and friends a wide-variety of entertaining activities to share," said Susan Klise, Rockville's outdoor programs assistant. "We're pleased to offer many quick and easy registration options so that people can concentrate on having fun together, rather than worry about the logistics."

In addition, shoppers can support the City's nature programming by purchasing gifts at the Croydon Creek Nature Center shop, *Nature Notions*. Choose from percussion frogs, journals, beaded geckos, plush birds and beautiful ornaments.

Each trip requires a separate registration. Further descriptions are available on-line or by calling 240-314-8641. Registration is on-going and can be done in-person at City Hall during business hours, on-line at www.rockvillemd.gov (click on Rock Enroll) or by phone at 301-762-4284. **RR**

MTC's 'Broadway Ball' Plays On Nov. 14

The Rockville-based Musical Theater Center will continue the celebration of its 20th anniversary season on Sunday, Nov. 14, with performances by young MTC artists, alumni and faculty members as part of its annual "Broadway Ball" at Indian Spring Country Club in Silver Spring.

Broadway Ball 2004, which will begin at 5 p.m., will feature a cocktail hour, dinner, dancing, silent and live auctions. Tickets are \$100 per person and proceeds will be used to support the center's educational programs.

MTC is one of the Washington area's best-known performing arts training programs. Since 1984, the center has trained several generations of young artists and currently has an annual enrollment of more than 1,800 students. Its performances at Rockville's F. Scott



The annual Broadway Ball by the Musical Theatre Center on Nov. 14. will be filled with entertainment.

Fitzgerald Theatre regularly sell out. Upcoming productions include *Annie Get Your Gun* and *Oklahoma*.

For further information about the Broadway Ball or MTC programs, call 301-251-5766 or visit the MTC Web site at www.musicaltheatercenter.org. **RR**

Youth to Learn Mapping Skills At GIS Day, Nov. 2

Rockville children from first through eighth-grade will have the opportunity to learn an exciting new technology from 1-5 p.m. on Nov. 2 through a program at the Croydon Creek Nature Center in Rockville Civic Center Park. The free event will focus on how GIS, a high-tech mapping and cataloging system, is used in everyday life.

Students will be introduced to reading topographic maps, get hands-on experience using the GIS mapping system and will receive take-home coloring maps and books. Among the day's activities will be a scavenger hunt and there will be sev-

eral educational programs.

"GIS Day is important because this technology is becoming an essential part of governments and businesses across the world," said Pedro Flores, Rockville's GIS manager. "While the mapping and cataloging system can be quite complex, the basic idea of mapping information is very simple. And those skills children must learn at an early age. At GIS Day, we will show that technology can not only be interesting, it can be fun."

For more information on attending Rockville GIS Day, contact Flores at 240-314-8170 or at pflores@rockvillemd.gov. **RR**

CHOO, CHOO! All Aboard for Train Show

Annual Lion s Club Event Stops at Senior Center

Train enthusiasts of all ages are invited to roar down the tracks to the Rockville Senior Center for the Rockville Lion Club's 14th annual modular train display and show on Saturday, Nov. 13, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday Nov. 14, from 12 noon to 4 p.m.

One of the most popular fall events at the Senior Center, the show features several rooms of large operating displays of railroad layouts provided by local model railroad clubs including Z, N and HO scales; a Garden Railway setup in G-scale; and a Lionel modular setup.

"It's a good chance for the public to get to know more about the Lion's Club in an environment that is just great family entertainment," said



There will be train fun for all ages at the Rockville Senior Center on Nov. 13 and 14.

Craig Cano, president of the Rockville Lion's Club. "It's one of our favorite events."

The Lion's Club is one of the largest service organizations in the world. The organization primarily focuses on sight-related programs, including gathering and distributing eyeglasses to people around

the world.

The show will culminate with the awards presentation of an HO-gauge train set and station to a lucky raffle winner. Purchasers of raffle tickets do not need to be present at the drawing to win.

Admission tickets to the show are \$4 per adult, \$2 per child or \$7 maximum for a family. Tickets are available at the door. All proceeds go to support the Rockville Lions Club's charitable efforts.

Parking is free at the Senior Center, which is located at 1150 Carnation Drive in the Woodley Gardens neighborhood.

For more information about the show, call the Senior Center at 240-314-8800 or visit www.rockvillelions.org. **RR**



LETTING IN THE SUN...Marilyn Mower, of Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services; Kal Bhatti, of Mirmar Architects; Mauricio Daza, City Facility and Support specialist; State Senator Jennie Forehand; State Delegate Luiz Simmons; Councilmember Anne Robbins; Jill Hall, Senior Center Supervisor; Jerry Daus, Parks and Facilities Development manager and Ron Barber, President of RSI, cut the ribbon to officially open the new sunroom addition to the Rockville Senior Center. The new sunroom and renovated kitchen benefit seniors who participate in the center's lunch program.

In Brief

Government Closed Election Day, Nov. 2

On Tuesday, Nov. 2, Rockville City Hall will be closed on Election Day, a state holiday in Maryland. Services will resume Wednesday, Nov. 3. However, trash and recycling will be collected as usual on the holiday.

For more information about the upcoming election, call the Montgomery County Board of Elections at 240-777-VOTE.

CALL 240-777-8683 FOR INFO

F.A.C.E.S. Grants Now Available

Nonprofit groups serving Montgomery County can now apply for grants through the F.A.C.E.S. (Freeman Foundation Assists Communities with Extra Support) Grants Program from the Freeman Foundation.

F.A.C.E.S. contributions are made primarily to local programs that assist seniors, children, and adolescents in the areas of education, culture, recreation, and health and human services. Organizations meeting these criteria may apply for mini-grants of \$500 to \$2,000. The application is available online at www.freemanfoundation.org.

Grant awards will be announced in early December.

CALL 240-779-8000 FOR INFO

Time Well Spent: Be a Mentor

Mentors help give at-risk youth a boost of support by improving their self esteem and confidence, coaching life skills and values and assisting with problem solving.

Adult mentors are needed to be role models and friends to deserving youth on Tuesday afternoons from 3:30-4:30 p.m. at College Gardens Elementary School throughout the school year.

To participate in this rewarding volunteer position or for more information contact Mandy Smith at the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services at 240-314-8318 or msmith@rockvillemd.gov.

CALL 240-314-8318 FOR INFO

Sister City Red Wine Tasting on Nov. 5

Wine connoisseurs will have a chance to taste unique red wines at the new Rockville Sister City Corporation “Red Wines of the Mediterranean” tasting event on Friday, Nov. 5, at 7:30 p.m. at the Rockville Senior Center.

The event will feature a selection of Cabernet, Pinot Noir, Chianti, Zinfandel and other wines from the regions of Italy, France and Spain. A spread of delicious cheeses and other foods also will be on hand to compliment the wine. Tickets are required.

CALL 240-314-5029 FOR INFO

“Somos” Celebrate Hispanic Pride

The Richard Montgomery High School student Hispanic group “Somos” will conduct a school-wide assembly on Wednesday, Nov. 24 from 9-10:30 a.m. The Richard Montgomery main auditorium will be filled with Latino dance, music and images of successful people of Hispanic origin to celebrate the unique qualities of the culture.

CALL 240-314-8315 FOR INFO

Tickets Available For “The Nutcracker”

The Rockville Civic Ballet will present the holiday classic, “The Nutcracker,” at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre in December.

Beginning Nov. 9, assigned seat tickets can be purchased in-person, by phone, or by mail at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre Box Office. Matinees typically sell out by Thanksgiving. The date and times are at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Saturdays, Dec. 4 and 11, and at 2 p.m. on Sundays, Dec. 5 and 12.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for children (12 and under) and senior citizens (60 and older). Group rates are \$9.50 for seven or more adult tickets and \$7.50 for 10 or more children or senior citizens tickets. The box office is located at 603 Edmonston Drive and is open from 2 - 7 p.m. on Tuesdays through Saturday or order online at www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre.

CALL 240-314-8690 FOR INFO



HONORING THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED... On Veterans Day, Nov. 11, a wreath-laying ceremony will be held at 11 a.m. in Veterans Park. Local American Legion posts, the the Fleet Reserve Association, Disabled American Veterans and the Rockville Eks Lodge will gather to acknowledge the bravery and honor of those who have served our country.

Free Trip for Veterans To WW II Memorial

In recognition of Veterans Day, Montgomery County Executive Douglas M. Duncan is extending an invitation to all military war veterans living in Montgomery County to participate in a free bus trip to the World War II National Memorial in Washington, D.C. The trip is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 6.

Buses will leave for the memorial from the Jury Parking Lot located at the corner of Route 28 and Monroe Street in Rockville at 1 p.m., returning at approximately 5 p.m.

Registration is required. Call 240-777-6821.

CALL 240-777-6530 FOR INFO

Para Ustd.

SOMOS: el orgullo de ser latino

El grupo Somos de la escuela secundaria Richard Montgomery convoca a una asamblea de toda la escuela para el miércoles 24 de noviembre de 9 a 10.30 a.m. El auditorio principal de la escuela se llenará con danzas e imágenes de personas de éxito de origen latino para celebrar las cualidades únicas de la cultura.

— Translated by Victoria Imas-Duchovny

CALL 240-314-8315 FOR INFO

CITY

5,19 **MOBY Medical Clinic** Primary medical care to low-income, uninsured, working-poor and homeless people in Montgomery County. 9:30-11:30 a.m. Twinbrook Community Recreation Center. 301-493-2400

5 **Sister City Red Wine Tasting** 7:30 p.m. at the Rockville Senior Center. Tickets are required. 240-314-5029

11 **Veterans Day Ceremony** A wreath-laying ceremony by local American Legion posts, Fleet Reserve Association, Disabled American Veterans and the Rockville Elks Lodge acknowledges the bravery and honor of comrades who served our country. 11 a.m. Veterans Park

12,26 **MOBY Medical Clinic** Primary medical care to the low-income, uninsured, working-poor and homeless people in Montgomery County. 9:30-11:30 a.m. Lincoln Park Community Recreation Center. 301-493-2400

14 **Rockville Lions Club's 14th Annual Modular Train Display Show.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Rockville Senior Center. \$4 adult, \$2 child or \$7 per family

20 **Off-Leash Dog Testing** Tests to see if City dogs can be walked without a leash. Call to register as date is subject to change. 10 a.m. Rockville Swim Center Outdoor Entrance Parking Lot. 240-314-8930

ARTS
The Glenview Mansion Art Gallery and F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre are located in Rockville's Civic Center

november calendar of events

RES. = Residents • NR. = Non Residents • MEM. = Member • NM. = Non Member

Park. Arts Hotline: 240-314-5006. Tickets may be purchased online at www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre. Service charges apply.

7-30 **Glenview Mansion Art Gallery** Connie Ward Woolard “Treasures of Rockville: Historic Homes and Buildings” acrylic on paper paintings, Maryland Society of Portrait Painters varied media, portraiture by 57 members artists. Reception 1-4 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 7. Artist talk 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 18. Guided Gallery Tour 10 a.m., on Friday, Nov. 19. 240-314-8682

7 **Glenview Mansion Sunday Afternoon Concert Series** U.S. Navy Band Chamber Ensembles Concert varied American repertoire. 2 p.m. FREE. 240-314-8682

21 **Rockville Concert Band** Patriotic marches, show tunes and American favorites. 3 p.m. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. FREE. Donations accepted. 240-314-8681

NATURE CENTER
All programs are at the Croydon Creek Nature Center, 852 Avery Road, Rockville Civic Center Park, unless noted. Registration is required. Register online at www.rockvillemd.gov or call 240-314-8770.

2 **Woodland Indians** Learn about the lives of Eastern Woodland Indians who inhabited this area 400 years ago. Did they sleep in teepees like the Plains Indians? What did they eat? Through a video, hike, games and a craft, glimpse into the lives of Woodland Indians. (Note: MCPS closed due to Election

Day.) 10:30-11:30 a.m. Ages 5 and up. \$3 RES/ \$4 NRES

3 **Tiny Tot Walk–Waddle We Do?** What part of a turkey is a waddle? Do turkeys fly? Give thanks to this wondrous-feathered friend. 10:30-11:15 a.m. Ages 1-1/2- 2. \$3 RES/\$4 NR

3 **Tyke Hike – Waddle We Do?** 1-2 p.m. Ages 3-5. \$3 RES/\$NR

5 **Game Show Night** Test your nature knowledge as families participate in this fun and educational night of questions, answers, tongue twisters and riddles. 7-8 p.m. All ages. \$2 RES/\$3 NR

11 **Food Chain Game** Explore how the food chain works, which animals eat what and learn what the nature critters eat as we feed them. (Note: MCPS closed due to Veteran's Day.) 1-2 p.m. Ages 6 and up. \$3 RES/\$4 NR

13 **Snow Geese of Bombay Hook** November is the peak season for viewing thousands of overwintering Snow Geese and migrating waterfowl. Head out to Delaware's Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge to view Snow Geese, Green-winged Teals, Scaups, Mergansers and Northern Shovelers. Bring a good pair of walking shoes, binoculars, bag lunch and a water bottle. Cost includes transportation by van, leadership and fees. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Ages 18 and up. \$30 RES/\$38 NR

17 **Armored Amadillos** Discover the wonders of these small mammalian tanks through activities and hikes. 10-11 a.m. Ages 3-6. \$4 RES/\$5 NRES

SENIOR CENTER

All programs are at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Dr., unless otherwise noted. 240-314-8800

1,3,8,10,15,17 **Understanding Windows** 10 a.m.-12 noon. \$30 MEM/\$37 NM

3 **Birthday Party** 1:30 p.m. FREE Register by Oct. 29

4,10 **Find Save and Use Help** 1-3 p.m. \$6 MEM/ \$8 NM

2,4,9,11,16,18,23 **Photo Editing** 1-3 p.m. \$45 MEM/\$50 NM

15 **Big Band Brunch** 10:15 -11:45 a.m. \$10 MEM/\$14 NM. Register by Nov.1

16 **New Treatment for Cataracts and Glaucoma** 11 a.m.-12 noon. FREE

16 **Basic Estate Planning and Living Trusts** 10-11:30 a.m. FREE

18 **Osteoporosis – It's Not Just for Women** 1-2 p.m. FREE

23 **Buy New or Upgrade Your Computer** 10-11:30 a.m. FREE

30 **Clarify Computer Concepts** 10 a.m.-12 noon. \$6 MEM/\$8 NM

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

All meetings are at City Hall unless otherwise noted.

3 **Planning Commission**, 7 p.m.

6 **Board of Appeals**, 9:30 a.m.

9 **Human Services Advisory Commission**, 7:30 p.m., 20 Courthouse Square, Suite 205

9 **Commission on the Environment**, 7:30 p.m.

10 **Cultural Arts Commission**, 7 p.m. Cottage at Civic Center Park

15 **Sign Review Board**, 4 p.m. (held as needed)

16 **Rockville Seniors, Inc.**, 1 p.m. Senior Center

16 **Town Center Action Team**, 7 p.m., Red Brick Courthouse, Room 105

17 **Rockville Housing Enterprises**, 6:30 p.m., 14 Moore Dr.

17 **Planning Commission**, 7 p.m.

18 **Historic District Commission**, 7 p.m.

18 **Rockville Sister City Corporation**, 7:30 p.m.

18 **Senior Citizens Commission**, 10 a.m. Senior Center

23 **Traffic and Transportation Commission**, 7:30 p.m.

24 **Rockville Economic Development, Inc. Board Meeting**, 7:30 a.m. 95 Monroe Street (call 301-315-8096)

24 **Human Rights Commission**, 7:30 p.m.

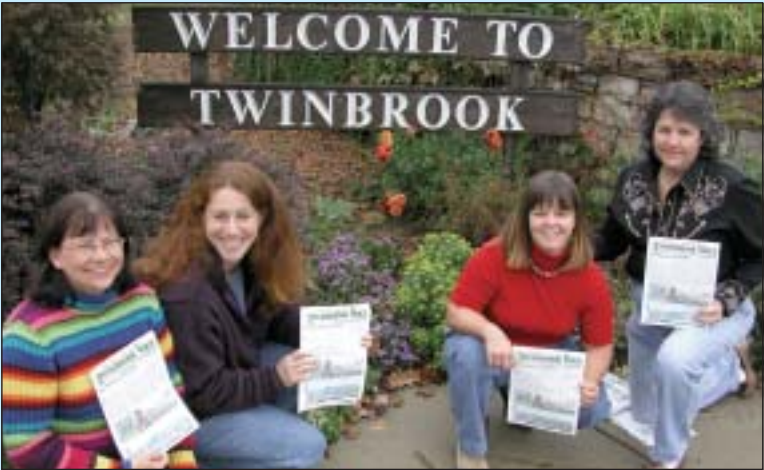
Rockville Up Close: **Community Newsletters**

Residents help shape Rockville through involvement with neighborhood and civic associations and participation on Mayor and Council-appointed Boards and Commission. On a regular basis, Rockville Up Close will take an in-depth look at these organizations.

There are many aspects that bind together the more than 50 unique neighborhoods and communities in Rockville and if you are reading this story you are probably pretty familiar with one—the community newsletter.

Neighborhood and community publications have been keeping Rockville citizens informed since the development of civic associations, which occurred in Rockville primarily after World War II. One of the oldest associations in Rockville is also known for one of the oldest publications, the Twinbrook Citizens Association’s newsletter, today called *The Twinbrook Voice*.

“It’s been around for decades,” said Jacquie Kubin, editor. “I believe off and on since



Above, left to right, Renee Kanali, Alison Moser, Shannon Sampson and Jacquie Kubin work together to produce the re-designed “Twinbrook Voice.”

the early 1950’s.” Kubin and a team of community volunteers, including Kubin’s husband, work together to produce the community publication, which last summer they redeveloped into a four-color, 16-page publication supported by advertisers.

“When it comes to sitting down and developing a publication like this, it works best to amass your talent,” said Kubin. “Decide who’s going to lay it out,

who’s going to write and edit it and who’s going to find someone to pay for it. Every community has people with these talents and skills to contribute.”

The idea to start a newsletter in one of Rockville’s newest communities, *Inside Fallsgrove*, came to Arthur Goldberg, Fallsgrove Association president, and his wife, Hani Miletski, after a heavy snowstorm in February 2002.

“People were helping each other shovel the snow and al-

though it was a very new community, everyone was coming together,” said Miletski, who is the advertising and distribution coordinator for *Inside Fallsgrove*.

The newsletter idea led to the start of the Fallsgrove Civic Association, which today is supported primarily through newsletter advertising.

“While we don’t want it to be entirely ads, we do use the money generated to hold activities that bring the community together.”

Other communities that have newsletters include The Americana Center, Cambridge Heights, College Gardens, East Rockville, Fallsmead, Flint Ledge, King Farm, Rockshire, Potomac Woods and Woodley Gardens.

“If it’s in our newsletter, they know it’s particularly relevant to them,” said Carl Petersen, editor of *The Lantern* published for Potomac Woods. “It was rated as the most important benefit of the community association and it’s something that people really value.” **RR**

Proving Your Dog’s Trustworthiness: Off-Leash Testing

Rockville, like most Washington metropolitan area jurisdictions, requires that dogs must be leashed or restrained whenever they go off private property. However, Rockville, which has considerable open space to be shared by dog lovers and their best friends, has a special program that allows some freedom for the City’s best-behaved dogs.

Each month, Rockville’s Neighborhood Services Division of the City Police Department conducts “Off-Leash Testing” for owners who wish to walk their dogs without a leash. Only dogs that have earned certification can avoid

finest for their owners if they are cited for being off a leash.

Any family member can bring a dog to testing and act as the handler. The two-part test seeks to determine if the dog will obey basic commands (such as sit, down and stay) and whether the dog can walk in a designated area without negatively reacting to distractions.

“For many owners, walking and playing with their dog without a leash is just a better experience and this program gives people the opportunity to demonstrate their dogs are deserving,” said Pat Colburn of the Neighborhood Services Division. “The purpose of the

program is to allow well-trained dogs to show they can be respected members of the community.”

Dogs must be licensed to be tested (non-residents must also show rabies certificate) and Colburn said a good age for most dogs to get certified is about one year. However, he said some well-trained dogs could be ready for testing as early as seven months.

Any dog that growls, snaps, bites, attacks or attempts to attack any person or another dog during testing is immediately dismissed from the test. If a handler kicks, strikes or otherwise roughly handles their dog,

the handler will be dismissed.

The test is generally conducted at 10 a.m. on the fourth Saturday of each month (except July, August and when holidays conflict) in the parking lot of Rockville’s Municipal Swim Center on Martin’s Lane. The next test will be Saturday, Nov. 20 (due to Thanksgiving weekend.)

The cost is \$5 per dog and dogs must be re-certified annually. There is no charge for recertification. Dogs that earn certification will receive a special collar tag.

For more information on Rockville’s Off-Leash Testing program, call 240-314-8930. **RR**

TRC 11	THE ROCKVILLE CHANNEL NOVEMBER PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE						
	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
12 Midnight until meeting ends	Planning Commission ▾	Mayor & Council ▾	Mayor & Council ▾	Mayor & Council ▾	Mayor & Council ▾	Mayor & Council ▾	Planning Commission ▾
6 am	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
6:30 am	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline
7 am	Caregivers: Basic Needs	Annual Report	Senior Center	Annual Report	Rockville City Government	Exploring Rockville's Past	Annual Report
7:30 am	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
8 am	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
8:30 am	Mayor & Council ▾	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Mayor & Council ▾
9 am	▾	RU: History & Trends of Rockville ▾	Not Your Father's Evaluation Form	RU: History & Trends of Rockville ▾	Annual Report	RU: History & Trends of Rockville ▾	▾
9:30 am	▾	▾	Rockville City Government	▾	Rockville City Government	▾	▾
10 am	▾	▾	Annual Report	▾	Not Your Father's Evaluation Form	▾	▾
10:30 am	▾	Caregivers: Basic Needs	Senior Center	Annual Report	Caregivers: Basic Needs	Annual Report	▾
11 am	Cityline	Not Your Father's Evaluation Form	Exploring Rockville's Past	Rockville City Government	Exploring Rockville's Past	Rockville City Government	Cityline
11:30 am	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
12 noon	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
12:30 pm	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline
1 pm until meeting ends	Mayor & Council ▾	Planning Commission ▾	Mayor & Council ▾	Mayor & Council ▾	Planning Commission ▾	Mayor & Council ▾	Planning Commission ▾
4 pm	RU: History & Trends of Rockville ▾	▾	RU: History & Trends of Rockville ▾	Annual Report	▾	RU: History & Trends of Rockville ▾	▾
4:30 pm	▾	Not Your Father's Evaluation Form	▾	Not Your Father's Evaluation Form	Caregivers: Basic Needs	▾	RU: History & Trends of Rockville ▾
5 pm	▾	Annual Report	▾	Senior Center	Rockville City Government	▾	
5:30 pm	Annual Report	Exploring Rockville's Past	Annual Report	Exploring Rockville's Past	Annual Report	Annual Report	
6 pm	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
6:30 pm	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
7 pm	Planning Commission ▾	Mayor & Council ▾	RU: History & Trends of Rockville ▾	Planning Commission ▾	Annual Report	Mayor & Council ▾	RU: History & Trends of Rockville ▾
7:30 pm	▾	▾	▾	▾	Senior Center	▾	▾
8 pm	▾	▾	▾	▾	RU: History & Trends of Rockville ▾	▾	▾
8:30 pm	▾	▾	Caregivers: Basic Needs	▾	▾	▾	Caregivers: Basic Needs
9 pm	▾	▾	Annual Report	▾	▾	▾	Senior Center
9:30 pm	▾	▾	Cityline	▾	Cityline	▾	Cityline
10 pm	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
10:30 pm	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
11 pm	Senior Center	Annual Report	Responsive & Responsible: Rockville City Government	Exploring Rockville's Past	Annual Report	Exploring Rockville's Past	Annual Report
11:30 pm	Annual Report	Caregivers: Basic Needs	Exploring Rockville's Past	Senior Center	Caregivers: Basic Needs	Annual Report	Rockville City Government

Volunteer Time: Sports Officials

There are many ways to share talent, experience, expertise and time with individuals or organizations by volunteering in the City. Each month “Volunteer Time” highlights a different opportunity to promote an interest in giving back to the community.

There are hundreds of people who volunteer for Rockville’s youth and adult sports programs. The greatest compliment to their work, ironically, is if no one notices their presence.

Unlike some volunteers, the game officials who rule over the 10 youth and 15 adult sports programs run by the City’s Department of Recreation and Parks do get paid. For example, umpires for adult softball games get about \$23 per game, officials at youth basketball games get paid in the range between \$18-35 and football game officials get paid about \$30-35 per game.

However, the pay is nominal compared to the efforts these volunteers must exert in technical game knowledge and staying in shape to keep up with the pace of play. In most sports, the officials are the only ones who never get to leave the field for breaks.


An outstanding day for these volunteers is if they get through games quietly, with hardly a notice by players because most of their calls seemed to be the right ones.

“All of our officials take pride in what they do,” said Chuck Miller, a sports program supervisor who is in charge of a number of adult and youth programs. “They get upset if someone complains. The players know the officials are trying hard and know the games could not go on without them.”

However, Miller said that there are occasional moments that can be trying for recreation league officials.

“Every once in a while, there will be a parent or a participant that can make an official’s day miserable,” said Miller. “That is not what our programs are about, but in the real world, it happens. And those days are difficult, no matter what an official gets paid.”

Overall, Miller said becoming an official is a great way for former athletes to stay close to the game — and get exercise. To learn more about becoming a Rockville sports official, call 240-314-8600. **RR**



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Rockville Reports is the official publication of the Mayor and Council, published monthly at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, Md. 20850-2364. It is delivered to all residents of Rockville. Deadline for news is the first day of the preceding month. Phone 240-314-8116.

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